

2007 Neighborhood Matching Grant Program

February 13, 2007



Funding Resources

- \$500,000 available for matching grants
- Funded with part of the 10% gas lease bonus money retained in the general fund/ gas fund
- Allocated by City Council for this use
January 9, 2007



Council Priorities

- Arlington is a city where people feel safe anywhere all the time
- Our community offers quality cultural, learning and leisure opportunities
- Reinvigorate Neighborhoods
- The city implements traffic calming measures



Program Objectives

- Strengthen and improve neighborhood organizations
- Stimulate communication and interaction between neighbors
- Advance inter-neighborhood cooperation
- Stimulate collaboration between organizations and the neighborhoods they serve



Program Objectives

- Stimulate communication and interaction between the citizens and the City
- Improve the appearance of and increase the integrity and safety of neighborhoods
- Broad dispersal of funds to maximize capacity building
- Increase the involvement of youth in our community



Eligible Applicants

- 501(c)3 Non-profit organizations
- Neighborhood Associations and Home Owner Associations*
- Citizen on Patrol and Neighborhood Watch Groups*
- Youth Organizations*

*if not a 501(c)3 must link with an IRS recognized non-profit
6 to serve as fiscal agent for the project.



Example of Eligible Projects

- Projects with a public purpose
- Safety equipment/lighting
- Crime Reduction
- Tree Planting/Landscaping
- Public Access Amenities
- Neighborhood Clean Up
- Support money for associations seeking 501(c)3 status
- Neighborhood Park Improvements
- Action Plans
- Seed funds for organizing associations (max \$1000 one time)
- Neighborhood Sign Toppers
- Historic Preservation/Restoration
- Traffic Calming
- Sidewalks
- Beautification



Ineligible Projects

- Projects without the 50% match
- Projects with other sources of full funding
- Requests for salaries or operating expenses
- Social service or educational programs
- Projects promoting special interests
- Projects conflicting with City improvements
- Projects not serving a public purpose
- Projects outside the city limits
- Projects that don't comply with federal, state or local laws
- Request for funding to supplant current activities



Overview of Grant Process

1. Submit Simple Letter of Intent (form provided)
2. Invitation to submit a proposal
3. Submission of Full Proposal (form provided)
4. Review by staff
5. Recommendation to the C&ND Committee
6. Approval by City Council
- 7. Contract between City and Grantee & Fiscal Agent**
8. Funds provided to Fiscal Agent
9. Project Undertaken by Grantee
10. Project Close Out by Grantee*



9 *Simple report showing funds were spent in compliance with contract (format provided)

Timeline for First Grant Cycle

Advertise Grants	February & March 2007
Deadline to Submit Letter of Intent	March 23, 2007 5 p.m.
Staff Determination of Who Meets Criteria	March 27-29, 2007
Invitation to Submit a Full Grant Proposal Assignment of a Staff Liaison	Mailed March 30, 2007
Deadline to Return Full Grant Proposal	April 27 th 5 p.m.
Review by Staff Selection Committee	April 30- May 11, 2007
Recommendation to C&ND Committee	May 15, 2007
Recommendation to City Council/ Approval by City Council	May 22, 2007
Award Letters Mailed to Grantees	May 25, 2007
Recognition of Grantees	During Neighborhood Month Activities- June 2007
Contracts Created by the City and Signed by Grantees and Fiscal Agents	May 23 - June 2007
Funds provided to Fiscal Agent	Once signed letter is returned
Work Begins by Grantees (Still Assigned to Staff Liaison)	No later than 60 days after signing of the letter agreement- August
Follow- Up With Staff Liaison During the Process	Monthly
Project Close Out by Grantee*	Upon completion of project, no more than 180 days after signing of the letter agreement

* Failure to close out project will result in grantee's ineligibility for future grant requests

Match Requirements

- 50/50 Match
- A minimum 25% of match must be in “neighbor-labor” volunteer hours
- Cash and/or donated or discounted goods and professional services for the balance



Grant Caps

- Letter of Intent on multiple projects by the same organization encouraged
 - will increase the likelihood that one will be funded
 - A maximum of only one project per organization will be awarded in each grant cycle
- Matching grants awarded from minimum of \$500 to maximum of \$10,000
- Additional opportunities available



Additional Opportunities

1. Youth and Neighborhood Partnership Program

- Can ask for \$5000 additional funding (total up to \$15,000)
- 66% (2 to 1) or more of the volunteers must be youth
- Encourage youth to play additional roles in the process (plan the project, write the proposal, etc.)

2. Youth Projects for Neighborhoods without Associations

- \$50,000 reserved for youth organizations
- Maximum of \$5000 per grant
- Must be a 501(c)3 or partner with one
- For neighborhood projects where an established neighborhood association currently does not exist



Questions?

